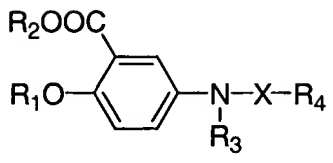


(I)

Wherein,

[X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)_n$ (where n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive);]

R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl or akanoyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or alkyl;

R_3 is hydrogen or an acetoxy group provided that,

when R_3 is hydrogen, X is SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$ (wherein, n is an integer of 2 to 5, inclusive), and R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the groups consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy

when R_3 is an acetoxy group, X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$, (wherein, n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive); and R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein

[X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)_n$ (where n is an integer of 1 – 5, inclusive);]

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_5 alkyl or C_2-C_5 alkanoyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or C_1-C_5 alkyl;

R_3 is hydrogen or an acetoxy group;

when R_3 is hydrogen, X is SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$, (wherein, n is an integer of 2 to 5, inclusive),and R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy

When R_3 is an acetoxy group, X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$, (wherein, n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive), and R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy

or a pharmceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein

[X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)_n$ (where n = 1,2,3);]

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl or C_2-C_3 akanoyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl;

R_3 is hydrogen or an acetoxy group; and

when R_3 is hydrogen, X is SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$, (wherein, n is an integer of 2 to 5, inclusive), and R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy

when R_3 is an acetoxy group, X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$, (wherein, n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive);and R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, which is one selected from the group consisting of

[5-(4-nitrobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid ,

(5-(4-chlorobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid ,

(5-(4-trifluoromethylbenzyl)aminosalicylic acid ,

(5-(4-fluorobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid ,

5-(4-methoxybenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,

5-(pentafluorobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid ,

5-(4-nitrobenzyl)amino-2-hydroxy ethylbenzoate,]

5-(4-nitrobenzyl)-*N*-acetylamino-2-hydroxy ethylbenzoate,

5-(4-nitrobenzyl)-*N*-acetylamino-2-acetoxy ethylbenzoate,

[5-(4-nitrobenzoyl)aminosalicylic acid,

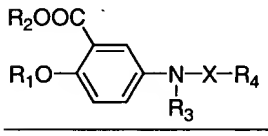
5-(4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl)aminosalicylic acid,]

5-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)-ethyl]aminosalicylic acid, and

5-[3-(4-nitrophenyl)-n-propyl]aminosalicylic acid,

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Amended) A method for protecting central neurons from acute or chronic injuries to the central nervous system (CNS) caused by activation of NMDA glutamate receptors or by entry and accumulation of Zn2+, or by free radicals comprising administrating to a patient or a mammal suffering such CNS injuries a therapeutically appropriate amount of a neuroprotective compound [of claim 1]represented by the following formula (I):



(I)

Wherein,

X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$ (where n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive)

R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl or akanoyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or alkyl;

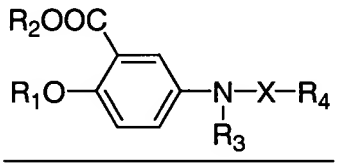
R_3 is hydrogen or an acetoxy group; and

R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy;

or a pharmceutical-acceptable salt thereof.

8. (Amended) A method according to Claim [3]5, wherein said compound attenuates NMDA neurotoxicity, Zn^{2+} neurotoxicity, and blocks free radical neurotoxicity as a direct antioxidant.

9. (Amended) A [method] composition for treating or preventing neurological diseases [linked to] caused by activation of NMDA [neurotoxicity] glutamate receptors, Zn^{2+} or oxidative stress, comprising administrating to a patient or a mammal suffering from [such]said neurological diseases a therapeutically effective amount of [claim 1] the compound represented by the following formula (I):



(I)

Wherein,

X is CO, SO_2 or $(CH_2)n$ (where n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive)

R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl or akanoyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or alkyl;

R_3 is hydrogen or an acetoxy group; and

R_4 is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy; or a pharmceutical-acceptable salt thereof.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-6, and 8-9 are pending in the application. Claim 7 has been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action of July 23, 2001, the Examiner set forth a number of grounds for rejection and /or objection. These grounds are addressed individually and in detail below.